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COMMENTS:

U.S. SERIAL NO. 09/265,070; FILING DATE: MARCH 9, 1999

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Official

PATENT
Docket No. 1232-4519

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): YAMAGISHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2697

Serial No.: 09/265,070

Examiner: Dorothy WU

Filed: March 9, 1999

For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND APPARATUS, CONTROL METHOD
THEREFOR, AND STORAGE MEDIUM

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION


Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached Amendment in Response to Restriction Requirement are
being transmitted on the date shown below to the Examiner Dorothy Wu of Group No. 2697 at
the following facsimile number: (703) 872-9314.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: March 24, 2003

By: _____


Matthew K. Blackburn
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3.25.03**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Serial No. : 09/265,070
Applicant(s) : YAMAGISHI et al.
Filed : March 9, 1999
Title : IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND APPARATUS, CONTROL METHOD
THEREFOR, AND STORAGE MEDIUM

Art Unit : 2697
Examiner : Dorothy WU

Docket No. : 1232-4519

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Honorable Commissioner Of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

The Office Action dated February 26, 2003 constituted a requirement for restriction, which divided this application into 3 species. These species were (1) claims 1-16 directed to an image processing method and apparatus for displaying sensed images on an electronic view finder; (2) claims 17-59 directed to an apparatus and method for changing the optical system condition of an image sensing lens to focus the lens and for associating and synthesizing the plurality of images to obtain a panoramic image; and (3) claims 60-68 directed to an image processing apparatus comprising a detachable lens and control means to permit detachment of the detachable lens.

As between these three species, Applicant provisionally elects Species 2 (Claims 17-59). Should the Restriction be made final, Applicant expressly reserves the right to represent the non-elected species (Claims 1-16 and 60-68) in divisional applications, if necessary.

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Appl. No. 09/265,070

Paper dated March 24, 2003

Reply to Office Action dated February 26, 2003

Applicants respectfully request an early and favorable examination on the merits.

In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate the examination of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY ADDITIONAL FEES WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED FOR THE TIMELY CONSIDERATION OF THIS AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 AND 1.17, OR CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 13-4500, ORDER NO. 1232-4519.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: March 24, 2003

By: 

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